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Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

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Addendum**

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* A/72/50.
** The information contained in the present addendum was received after the issuance of the main report.

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IV. Replies received from Governments

Brunei Darussalam

[Original: English]
[28 February 2017]

1. During the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, Brunei Darussalam joined all countries in supporting and adopting the United Nations resolution on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities.

2. Brunei Darussalam's transparency and confidence-building measures include: the articulation of its commitment to this issue; general transparency in sharing relevant available information, including in regard to outer space-related military expenditures and other national security activities; and providing information on other international cooperation measures with respect to outer space activities that the country is involved in.

3. Brunei Darussalam supports disarmament efforts and the non-proliferation of all types of weapons of mass destruction at both the regional and global levels. As such, Brunei Darussalam is a party to most of the major regional and global instruments pertaining to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Brunei Darussalam also has aligned itself with the commitment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on this issue.

4. Hence, Brunei Darussalam remains committed to a number of United Nations resolutions on outer space (disarmament aspects) in support of promoting peaceful uses of outer space, maintaining an outer space free of weapons and preventing an arms race in outer space. On that note, Brunei Darussalam does not have any military equipment that is also used to support outer space activities.

Canada[1]

[Original: English]
[3 April 2017]

5. Canada believes that the international community must adopt new rules of behaviour in outer space, including transparency and confidence-building measures. Such rules can solidify international norms in outer space, thereby creating greater mutual understanding and reducing tension and, ultimately, contributing to a safe, sustainable and secure outer space environment. Canada, therefore, strongly supports the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 2013 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities.

6. Canada sees the national implementation of existing international instruments governing space activities as a vital condition for maintaining space as a secure, safe and sustainable environment. Accordingly, Canada has signed the four core space treaties. It has also implemented in its national legislation principles and guidelines adopted by the international community such as the space debris mitigation guidelines and the Principles relating to Remote Sensing of the Earth from Outer Space.

7. Canada sees information exchange as a key measure that can pave the way to the establishment of many other forms of transparency and confidence-building

[1] The full text of the submission of Canada can be found on the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs: www.un.org/disarmament/.

measures. Canada published its national space policy framework in 2014, submits an annual report to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that details Canada's main space activities and intends to make public future space-related policies and strategies. It maintains a national registry of space objects and makes a concerted effort to update it as soon as practicable. In addition, it provides refined conjunction assessments to operators in response to initial close-approach notifications and shares space weather information, including on solar flares, for free.

8. Canada is actively engaged in international and multilateral forums that discuss space issues, pursues collaboration on a bilateral basis and is a subscribing State to the Hague Code of Conduct. Canada strongly values the contribution of international and non-governmental organizations to support continued peaceful uses of outer space and collaborates with such organizations to fostering research and outreach.

9. Canada welcomes the adoption of a first set of voluntary guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space and call upon space-faring nations to implement those guidelines at the earliest opportunity. We are honoured to chair the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in 2016 and 2017 and will continue to actively participate in the finalization of the second set of voluntary guidelines and the resulting compendium to be submitted for adoption by the General Assembly in 2018. The compendium of guidelines will contribute to the strengthening of norms of behaviour in outer space activities.

Peru

[Original: Spanish]
[20 February 2017]

10. The space agency of Peru, namely, the National Commission for Aerospace Research and Development, is of the view that the report of the Secretary-General on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities sets out the necessary means and procedures for ensuring that countries that have a presence in outer space, including emerging countries such as Peru (which has put into orbit an earth observation satellite with a view to boosting socioeconomic development and national security, and developed a peaceful scientific rocket programme to study the upper atmosphere), can conduct their outer space activities in a climate of confidence.

11. We consider that General Assembly resolution 70/53 on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities helps to facilitate international cooperation on outer space activities, which is particularly useful for developing countries given the beneficial impact of such activities on national socioeconomic development.